

# **Item 9A-4**

## **Environmental Justice Team Update**

### ***Information Item***

**California Bay-Delta Authority**

**June 15, 2006**

# CALFED EJ Roundtable

- The objective of the CALFED environmental justice roundtable was to:
  - open a dialogue with the environmental justice community to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the CALFED Environmental Justice Program,
  - secure consensus on the application of the Program within CALFED,
  - assist in identifying effective practices, potential models, other technical assistance resources to promote the integration of environmental justice into all planning, development, and implementation activities.

# The EJ Team

- Established an EJ Team to organize roundtable that included community groups and several implementing Agencies:
  - Community Group Participants: EJCW-Alisha Deen, Dr. Henry Clark, LaDonna Williams, Gary MulCahee, and Debbie Davis.
  - Implementing Agencies: Reclamation, CBDA Staff, DWR, DFG, DHS, DFA, and SWRCB.

# CALFED EJ Team

- Identified key issues from EJ Subcommittee archives for discussion at planned EJ Roundtable.
  - Consider EJ as CALFED program element
  - Discuss funding to support EJ activities
  - Develop and implement a timetable for inclusion of EJ in CALFED program areas
  - Consider EJ options for grants
  - Improve research and data collection
  - Discuss how EJ can be included in CEQA guidelines

# CALFED EJ Team

- On April 13, 2006, CALFED conducted the EJ Roundtable. Results:
  - Agreement on an EJ definition for CALFED
  - CALFED EJ roles and responsibilities
  - Contracts with EJ Groups
  - EJ should be included in all program elements
  - Incorporate EJ into performance measures of other CALFED programs

# Next Steps

- Develop and Implement an Overarching EJ Policy/Strategy for CALFED implementing agencies
  - Develop a framework for participating agencies implementation to ensure consistency and efficiency
- Public comment for draft EJ Implementation Plan
- Establishment of Implementing Agency/CALFED EJ Coordinators Group
- Develop and Implement EJ performance measures for incorporation by Implementing Agencies
- Completion of an EJ Implementation Plan that is supported and carried out

# Challenges for EJ Implementation

- Dissolution of CALFED EJ program in FY 2007
- Lack of Central EJ Coordinator
- Funding of EJ Community Group participation in planning and implementation (short term)
- Funding of EJ Community Group participation at the project level (long term)

# Future EJ Implementation

- Commitment by CALFED Implementing Agencies and participating agencies to:
  - Adopt the commitment of the ROD- “CALFED Agencies will be responsible for ensuring EJ is carried out across all program areas.”
  - Support the “Next Steps” to be taken:
    - incorporate the “framework, implementation plan, and performance measures” into implementing agencies programs and policies.
  - Make EJ an integral part of agency’s missions
    - Funding
    - Accountability